

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

DOCKET NUMBER	ANTICIPATED CLASSIFICATION OF THIS APPLICATION:		PRIOR APPLICATION	
	CLASS	SUBCLASS	EXAMINER	ART UNIT
10873.0739USD1			Hoang X. Ngo	2852

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV347833314US

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I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By:
Name: John Juncos

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

BOX Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is not provided because it was previously cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in parent application, U.S. Serial No. 09/868,361 filed on June 15, 2001.

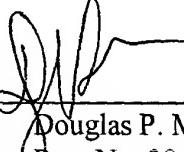
No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Dated: July 22, 2003
By 
Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300

DPM:smm

FORM 1449* INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT			Docket Number: 10873.0739USD1	Application Number: filed here within
IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)			Applicant: TATEMATSU et al.	
			Filing Date: filed here within	Group Art Unit: n/a

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	US 5,752,148	May 1998	Yoneda et al.			
	US 6,175,713	Jan. 2001	Uehara et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
						YES
	JP 10-123861	May 1998	Japan			
	JP 8-137306	May 1996	Japan			
	JP 9-197869	July 1997	Japan			
	JP 9-134084	May 1997	Japan			
	JP 10-74007	March 1998	Japan			
	JP 7-253733	Oct. 1995	Japan			
	JP 10-340019	Dec. 1998	Japan			
	JP 7-160133	June 1995	Japan			
	JP 9-190105	July 1997	Japan			
	JP 5-150675	June 1993	Japan			
	JP 10-171296	June 1998	Japan			
	JP 5-46050	Feb. 1993	Japan			
	JP 8-6413	Jan. 1996	Japan			
	JP 5-19653	Jan. 1993	Japan			
	JP 6-202522	July 1994	Japan			
	JP 10-301432	Nov. 1998	Japan			
	JP 10-104975	April 1998	Japan			
	EP 0 363 686	April 1990	EPO			
	EP 0 679 961	Nov. 1995	EPO			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED	 23552 <small>PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE</small>
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.		